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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 007496

SIPDIS

CORRECTED COPY OF PARIS 7492 -- MISSING TEXT IN PARAS 2-4

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/02/2015

TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [I2](#) [UNSC](#)

SUBJECT: MFA EMPHASIZES COOPERATIVE SPIRIT ON DRAFT IRAQ  
UNSCR, SUGGESTS "MINOR" PREAMBULAR CHANGES

REF: STATE 201053

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Josiah Rosenblatt, reasons  
1.5 (b) and (d).

[11](#). (U) This message contains a guidance request in para 4.

[12](#). (C) Poloff discussed the new Iraq UNSCR (reftel) November 2 with MFA UN/Iraq desk officer Nicolas Kassianides, who had sent instructions on the draft text earlier in the day to the French UN Mission in New York. Kassianides stressed that the GoF remained in a "cooperative spirit" on the draft text, and that the GoF would make "one or two" minor suggested edits to the preambular section. According to Kassianides, one likely GoF-suggested change would be for the preambular language to more clearly express the linkage between the capacity of Iraqi forces and the eventual withdrawal of the multinational force; on this point, Kassianides, pressed by poloff, clarified that the GoF was not seeking to hasten MNF-1's departure, suggest a withdrawal timetable, or seek any sort of confrontation. He suggested that perhaps some language from the U.S. letter to the UNSC (reftel) on the transfer of security responsibility from MNF to Iraqi security forces could be added to the draft text; poloff noted that letter in question, along with the extension request letter from the Iraqi government, would be appended to the new UNSCR.

[13](#). (C) On the proposed 12 month extension of MNF-1, Kassianides observed personally that this was longer than one might expect for a technical rollover, though the instructions he sent to New York did not address this point. He said that the GoF understood U.S. firmness on the 12-month extension, and suggested that the GoF would not seek a confrontation on this point. At the same time, he suggested that the GoF might seek a bit more flexibility on the proposed review of the MNF-1 mandate eight months after adoption of the resolution, and asked why not six months, given the Iraqi constitutional calendar. Poloff stressed the need for the Council to be responsive to what the Iraqi government had requested, and allow the newly elected Iraqi government to assume office, consolidate its authority and address constitutional issues before confronting UNSC issues. Poloff added that the proposed review clause in the draft text would give Iraq's new government the opportunity to request a review of the mandate at any time. Kassianides accepted the point, but suggested that the GoF might probe for flexibility on the mandate review timing in discussions in New York.

[14](#). (C) In passing, Kassianides asked for clarification on U.S. intentions to pursue a second Syria/Lebanon UNSCR to respond to the recently issued UNSCR 1559 implementation report, and asked how such a resolution might be sequenced with the adoption of the draft Iraq UNSCR and to what extent it would address Iraq. Poloff responded by reiterating our determination to adopt the Iraq UNSCR quickly and consensually, as reftel guidance suggested, on or about November 9. Action request for Washington: Please advise on how to respond to the French query on timing for a second Syria/Lebanon UNSCR and possible elements.

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<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>  
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